

# Budget Unit Brief

## FY 2017



## State Election Fund

### Purpose and History

The State Election Fund was established in 2003 as a coordinating fund to receive and disburse federal moneys made available to states by the Help America Vote Act (HAVA). Interest earned on the money was allowed to be maintained within the Fund. The corpus or principal from the HAVA funds expired in approximately FY 2012. The interest earned in FY 2014 was approximately \$4,700.

In addition to federal dollars, the Fund also receives County Maintenance Fees. There are currently 2.1 million registered voters in Iowa, and counties are required to pay \$0.135 per registered voter for the actual cost of the services (Iowa Code section [47.8\(4\)](#)). These funds total approximately \$283,500 annually. This fee is reviewed by the Iowa Voter Registration Commission by January 15 of each calendar year.

The HAVA money and the County Maintenance Fees have been used to maintain the state election system, including statewide voter registration, election reporting, election equipment maintenance, voting accessibility, and election training.

### Funding

The amount of money in the State Election Fund is approximately \$1.1 million. The amount of ongoing revenue deposited in the Fund from the County Maintenance Fees is approximately \$286,000 per year. Annual expenditures from the Fund are used for vendor maintenance fees and software licenses for the I-VOTER system.

### Related Statutes

Iowa Code chapter [47](#)

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### More Information

Secretary of State: <http://sos.iowa.gov/>

Iowa General Assembly: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/>

LSA Staff Contact: Jennifer Acton (515-281-7846) [jennifer.acton@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:jennifer.acton@legis.iowa.gov)